

# SAINT JOHN'S

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Creating a community where  
God's love changes people  
and God's people change the world.



## Sunday Morning Worship

February 21: 9:00 a.m.; 11:00 a.m.

## Sunday School

9:55-10:50 a.m. (some start earlier - see brochure on information table)

## February 21, 2010 Newsletter

New Members, pg. 2  
This Week, pg. 2 - 3  
Upcoming Events, pg. 3 - 4  
Children & Youth Ministry, pg. 5  
Grace Garden Happenings, pg. 5  
News & Notes, pg. 6  
Congregational Care, pg. 7  
Sunday School Notes, back pg.

## Church Office Hours

Mon-Thurs: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Closed Fridays

- 1 *We believe in:* making disciples of Jesus Christ for transformation of the world.
- 2 *We live by two kinds of holiness:* Personal, Social
- 3 *We follow three simple rules:* Do no harm, Do good, Stay in love with God
- 4 *We work in four areas of focus:* Develop leaders, Create places for new people, Eliminate poverty, Improve health globally

## Blessed by Discipline *by Valerie Vogt*

Lent has begun. On Wednesday February 17th, we at Saint John's joined with Christians throughout the world in celebrating Ash Wednesday. Lent is often a time when people decide to give something up. From chocolate to coffee, there is no end to pleasures we can choose to abstain from during this season. Lent is an opportunity to reflect on what Christ has done and to prepare for Easter. This season reminds us of the importance of working at our faith. Spiritual discipline helps us to grow in our faith. Disciplines create new places where we can receive and respond to God's abundant grace and love.



As I was thinking about what to give up or add into my life during this Lenten season, I was struck by the hard work of our Confirmation class. This year's sixth grade students have been gathering almost every Sunday morning during the Sunday School hour since September. They will continue to meet until May 23rd, Confirmation Sunday. They have spent the past five months learning more about the Christian faith. They still have three more months of study ahead. The students have made a serious time commitment. They, with the support of their families, have not only committed to studying on Sunday mornings, but also to attending retreats, special worship services, and fellowship activities. Each of these students has a mentor who prays for and encourages the students in this special time of study and reflection.

Confirmation class is the time when students who have been baptized and raised in the church take time to reflect on the Christian faith. This is the year when they learn more about their faith community. They ask questions, study the history of The United Methodist Church, and learn about spiritual disciplines. From prayer and Bible study to service and hospitality, the Confirmation students take the time to understand what it means to live as one who follows Jesus.

Following Jesus is serious business. There's no way to get around it. Thankfully, we trust and follow a God who loves us and desires to bless us. But if Lent teaches us nothing else, it reminds us that it can be costly to obey God. Our lives are changed when we choose to follow Jesus. Jesus gave his all, and we find life in learning to do the same.

The Confirmation students are working hard this year. They know that at the end of this class they can choose to become a member of Saint John's. They are always welcome at Saint John's. They have been and will continue to be family, regardless of their membership status. But if they choose to become a member, they know it means they must take that commitment

"Blessed by Discipline" continued on page 2

## FEBRUARY 21 IN WORSHIP

This first Sunday in Lent, Rev. Dr. Georjean Blanton brings the message "In the Wilderness", based on Luke 4.1-13. Music is shared by the Cokebury Choir at 9:00 a.m. and Jones Memorial Handbells at 11:00 a.m.

**Calendar**

**Sunday, February 21**

200p Flute Choir, MR  
430p Prayer Group, A  
500p Hope Food Pantry Hunger Meal, GH  
530p UMYF, YH  
700p Youth Parent Meeting

**Monday, February 22**

900a Moms’ Coffee, 5900  
1230p Eclipsing Empire, 211  
530p Aerobics, YH  
530p Al-Anon, A  
615p Renaissance Service  
630p Heart of Christianity, 5900B

**Tuesday, February 23**

230p Tai Chi, 5900B  
630p Acts of Disciples, 5900B

**Wednesday, February 24**

900a Staff Meeting, 208  
1030a GG Chapel, Sanc.  
1045a Cokebury, MR  
130p Intro to Group Spiritual, Chapel  
530p Aerobics, YH  
545p Jones Handbells, Sanc.  
630p Choir, Sanc.  
630p Way of Forgiveness, 208  
630p Primer on John Wesley, 119  
630p Beginnings, 211  
730p Debtors Anon, A

**Thursday, February 25**

900a Postal Pros, 119  
1000a GG Music, 101  
100p Grace Garden Art, 102  
600p MFSA Exec., YH  
700p AA, A

**Friday, February 26**

1200p Girls in Grace, A  
530p Aerobics, YH

**Saturday, February 27**

900a Intentional Faith Dev. Retreat, 5900

A, B, C = Annex Classrooms (5906 Wynona)

FH = Fellowship Hall

GH = Great Hall

MR = Music Room

Sanc. = Sanctuary

YH = Youth House (5908 Wynona)

5900= 5900 Wynona: F=Front B=Back

**Contact Us**

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Email: [info@stjohnsaustin.org](mailto:info@stjohnsaustin.org)

**News by Email** - Contact the office by phone or email and give us your email.

seriously. When with us they and we say “yes” to Jesus and God’s church, we all together say “yes” to faithfully participating in the church’s ministries with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. When we say “yes” to Jesus, we say “yes” with our whole lives.

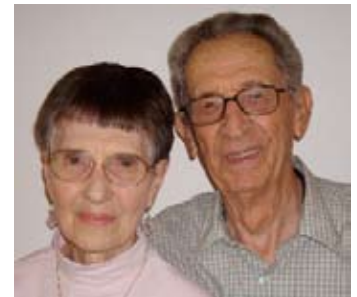
My prayer for us this Lenten season is that we will take time to reflect on God’s love for us. God took on flesh and walked among us in Jesus. We have been invited to follow Jesus. I hope Lent will help us to more faithfully respond to God’s love for us. But I hope it doesn’t end there. Lent and sixth grade Confirmation are not the only times we should work hard at our faith. Every day is a new day to respond to God’s love and to show God’s love to the world. We will be blessed as we discipline ourselves to follow Jesus.

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## NEWEST MEMBERS OF OUR FAMILY

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Walter and Tina Bauguess joined Saint John’s on January 11, 2010. They attend the Saint John’s services that are held twice a month (2nd and 4th Mondays) at The Renaissance. Tina and Walter noticed that Saint John’s cares and checks on their members and decided that would like to be a part of this community. Walter is retired from Johnson and Johnson and enjoys photography and the computer. Tina is a retired teacher who enjoys reading and birding. We welcome Tina and Walter to the Saint John’s family!



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## WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21

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### 3rd Annual Hunger Meal - February 21

The Hunger Meal, a Hope Food Pantry fundraiser, educates the public about hunger issues in our community. The meal will be held at Saint John’s, this Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Similar to the way Hope Food Pantry serves food recipients, attendees are divided into upper, middle and lower income status groups represented in Travis County. The upper-income group is served a 4-course meal by a wait staff, the middle income group has a buffet-style pasta dinner, and the low-income group has rice and beans. There will also be a silent auction. For tickets, contact Zada Doherty, 345-1605, [zada@austin.rr.com](mailto:zada@austin.rr.com).

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### Youth Parent Meeting- Feb. 21

Please join us to discuss the youth mission trips planned for this summer. We will meet in the youth house Sunday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m. to go over all the details of the mission trips. Bring your calendar, questions, and comments.

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### AAIM: Mission Opportunity - Monday, February 22

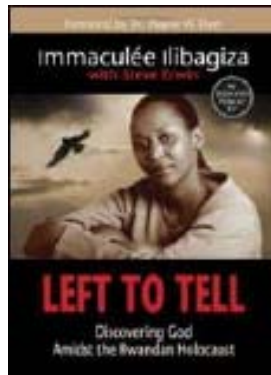
We have been invited to help with the “Square One Lunch” program for refugees on February 22. To help refugees get oriented to life in Austin, AAIM started a monthly program. Located downtown in Central Presbyterian Church, the AAIM Refugee School offers year-round English as a second language and basic cultural education classes to newly arrived refugees from different parts of the world. Saint John’s will provide the refugees with a simple lunch. If you are interested in helping prepare and/or serve lunch, please contact Valerie at [valerie@stjohnsaustin.org](mailto:valerie@stjohnsaustin.org).

## Moms' Coffee - Monday, February 22

The next Moms' Coffee is set for Monday, Feb. 22, when we'll begin our discussion of Immaculée Ilibagiza's amazing autobiography "Left to Tell." Ilibagiza's life was transformed dramatically during the 1994 Rwandan genocide when she and seven other women spent 91 days huddled silently together in the cramped bathroom of a local pastor's house. She entered the bathroom a vibrant, 115-pound university student and emerged weighing just 65 pounds to discover all but one family member had been brutally murdered. Crediting her survival to faith and prayer, after her escape she found it possible, and in fact imperative, to forgive her family's killers.

Moms' Coffee begins at 9:00 a.m. at 5900 Wynona, across the street from the church, for pastries and hot coffee. We will go through the book together and meet every other week to discuss. Free childcare provided. Please email [sally@stjohnsaustin.org](mailto:sally@stjohnsaustin.org) if you would like it. You may purchase the book beforehand through Amazon.com. Copies of the book are also available at Austin public libraries. The cost of the study is free.

On May 1, Immaculée will be at the Paramount to talk about her remarkable life. We will plan to attend this special event as a group.



Happy  
Birthday!



- Feb.23:** Berl Handcox, Anna Hartzell, Ellen St. Romain  
**Feb.24:** Houston Melder, Liz Stewart, Brandi Young  
**Feb.25:** Bill Callaway, Sam Harris, Thelma Hobbs, Melissa Rosales  
**Feb.26:** Glenn Gielstra, Ashlyn Longo, Janis Richter  
**Feb.27:** Ruth Airhart, Sheri Jones, Linda Keeling, Benjamin Kulchisky, Sara Young  
**Feb.28:** Bill Crowell, Jason Ewing, Deborah Hallock  
**March 1:** Bonnie Jackson, Heather Mitchell, Carol Middleton, Nathan Wofford

### Newsletter deadlines!

Newsletter submissions are due the previous Thursday (yes, 10 days before!) for inclusion in the following Sunday's newsletter. Articles may be edited for style and length. Submit to [holly@stjohnsaustin.org](mailto:holly@stjohnsaustin.org) or leave your article in the church staff mailbox outside of the church office.

### OUR PRESENCE:

#### Attendance Sunday, February 14

Wed. Noon Service	3
Renaissance Service	16
Sunday School	159
Worship 9:00a	115
Worship 11:00a	204
Worship Total	338

### Worship Service CD's Available

If you know someone who would like a CD on a weekly basis, give the name to Jeanette Ball. We also need people to deliver them to our homebound. Sunday's Worship CDs are available for pick-up in the church office on Thursday mornings, and a limited number of CDs are available for anyone on Sundays in the Gallery.

### Large Print Hymnals Available

Large print hymnals are available on the usher carts that are near the entrance doors to our sanctuary. If you know someone who has special needs, please let the church know. We will do our best to accommodate them.

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## Intentional Faith Development Retreat - February 27

If you are interested in participating in a time of learning and planning Adult Spiritual Formation, mark your calendars for Saturday, February 27, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Intentional Faith Development Committee will learn from Dr. David White, Nelson Associate Professor of Christian Education at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. We are blessed to have such a great resource as David as an active participant at Saint John's and our IFD Committee. IFD will be developing a plan for life-long opportunities for spiritual growth and development.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### Hospitality Meeting and Social for Ushers and Greeters

We will be having a meeting of all ushers and greeters for both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services on **Sunday, February 28**, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. in the Chapel. We will be serving refreshments, meeting each other, talking about the duties, giving contact information and working out some small kinks. Please let Sallie ([ssassano@stjohnsaustin.org](mailto:ssassano@stjohnsaustin.org)) know if you are unable to attend. If you are interested in greeting or ushering you are also welcome to attend. We need more volunteers! Can't wait to see you there.

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### Lenten Study on Prayer - Begins February 28

Starting Sunday, February 28 at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall, Georjean Blanton will lead a four week discussion about prayer, what is it, why do we do it, how do we do it, what difference does it make? All Sunday school classes as well as those who are not part of a regular Sunday school class are invited. No experience or text is required: simply a desire to know more.

### Upper Room Devotional

The March/April issue of the Upper Room daily devotional is available for \$1.50 each on the Information table at the front entrance to the church.

### Save Your Tabs!

Save the pull tabs on your fruit, veggie and meat cans, as well as soda cans and put them in the specially marked "Ronald McDonald House" boxes attached to the can recycle containers around the church. Ronald McDonald House receives money for these tabs to support their "home-away-from-home" for families of children with serious illnesses.

### Equal Exchange Coffee

Equal Exchange, our coffee we use Sunday mornings, provides an alternative by working directly with small farmer cooperatives, helping to build pride, independence and community empowerment. The coffee, which comes in various flavors, and hot cocoa can be purchased outside the church office. The coffee is \$7.50 per bag and hot cocoa is \$5.50 per can.

### IN THE COMMUNITY

#### Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic

Consider volunteering for the Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D). Volunteers perform every step in the production process, including setting up textbooks, operating recording equipment, reading, quality control checking, and duplicating. No special knowledge is needed, as RFB&D will train. Volunteer opportunities are also available in areas of outreach, development and special events. Informational tours of about an hour are available. For information, call 323-9390.

#### OUR SERVICE

#### Open Hearts Volunteer Opportunities in this week's newsletter

- Hope Hunger Meal, pg. 2
- AAIM: Mission Opportunity, pg. 2
- Ushers and Greeters, pg. 3
- KOAM, pg. 4
- Save Your Tabs, pg. 4
- Easter Egg Hunt, pg. 4
- Galveston Mission Trip, pg. 4

## Kids to Put Together Giggle Bags! - February 28

Kids On A Mission has a new assignment. Our next project is assembling Giggle Bags for young hospital patients in Austin. We'll assemble the bags during Sunday School, Feb. 28. If you've ever



been in a hospital, you know that even spending a few hours there can be boring and not much fun. Our hope is that these bags, filled with fun items, will bring joy to children. *KOAM is in need the following items for Giggle Bags:*

- brown paper bags
- bubbles, puzzles
- handheld games
- any small, silly items that can fit easily into a bag.

Items may be dropped off in the gallery. If you have questions about what to bring, please email [sally@stjohnsaustin.org](mailto:sally@stjohnsaustin.org). KOAM is set for once a month throughout the year. Please see Children's Corner for a list of all other events coming up in Children's Ministry.

## Children's Easter Egg Hunt and Lunch - March 28



Children 5th grade and younger are invited to participate our annual Easter Egg Hunt event. Each child needs to bring one dozen "stuffed" plastic eggs for the Easter egg hunt. Easter eggs should be placed in the labeled containers in the Gallery prior to the 11:00 a.m. worship service. After the service, parents and children will gather at 5900 Wynona. Join us for lunch after the egg hunt. Sandwiches will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Be looking for a sign up sheet in the gallery beginning February 28. For questions or to volunteer, please contact Tracy Burger at [tracy@stjohnsaustin.org](mailto:tracy@stjohnsaustin.org).

## Back to the BEACH...to Work!

Saint John's has another adult mission trip scheduled April 11 - 16 on Galveston Island. There are still 2000 homes in need of repair. Options include three to five days, leaving Sunday and returning Friday inclusive. Cost, approximately \$100. We will have a short meeting soon to answer questions. For information or questions, contact Mike Renquist, 663-9868 or [mgrenquisit@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mgrenquisit@sbcglobal.net).

## 3-2-1 Blast Off! Galactic Blast VBS - July 12 - 16

Let the countdown begin...Galactic Blast launches off at Saint John's the week of July 12 - 16. Cadets ages 4 through entering 5th grade are invited to join us from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon each day for Galactic Blast: A Cosmic Adventure Praising God! At Galactic Blast, your children will become cadets on the starship Galactic Praise as we learn more about our



wonderful, incredible, amazing, magnificent, awesome God. Through music, crafts, science activities and games, kids will witness how our mighty God is at work in the world. Online Registration begins Sunday, April 4.

# CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

## Children's Events

**Sunday, February 28:** Kids On A Mission at 9:50 a.m., great hall  
**Sunday, February 28:** Special Children's Music Offering at 11:00 a.m.  
**Sunday, March 21:** Kids On A Mission at 9:50 a.m.  
**Sunday, March 28:** Children's Palm Procession at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.  
Special Music Offering at 11:00 a.m.  
Easter Egg Hunt at 12 noon, 5900 Wynona

**July 12 – 16:** Galactic Blast Vacation Bible School from 9:00 a.m. – noon.

*Children's Sunday School 9:50 a.m.*

**Sunday, February 21:**

Children meet at 9:50 a.m. in their regular Sunday school classroom. The scripture for this first Sunday in Lent is Luke 4: 1-13, the story of Jesus in the Wilderness.

- 3 and 4 years (Rm. 105 - drop off in 106)
- K & 1st grade (Rm. 103)
- 2nd and 3rd grade (Rm. 104)
- 4th and 5th grade (Rm. 101)

## Youth Events

**Sunday, February 21:**

**MYF** - We're continuing our new series, "Why I am a follower of Jesus." Guest speakers: Calley Piland and Ryan Marchbanks. Free dinner, program, and meeting about this summer's Mission Trips.

**Youth Parent Meeting** - join us in the Youth House on Sunday, February 21st at 7:00 p.m. We'll go over all the details for this summer's mission trips. Bring your calendar, questions, and comments.

*Youth Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. in the Youth House*

**Sunday, February 21:**

• **Confirmation Class:**

We continue our study "Claim the Name."

• **7th - 8th grade:**

We continue our series on "Jesus" led by Valerie Vogt.

• **9th - 12th grade:**

We continue our study, "Living the Questions" led by Micheal Harper.



## Grace Garden Happenings by Kym Cooper

Love is patient, love is kind. Somewhere in this needs to be added, love is fun! Grace Garden just hosted its fourth annual Daddy Daughter Dance last week. It is one of the most precious and fun events that I have ever been witness to. Little girls dressed up in their fancy dresses accompanied by their "Prince Charming" whether that be Daddy, Uncle, or Grandpa. The couples get to have their pictures taken, like you once did at Prom. There is dancing, eating, and contests galore. There is even a much anticipated balloon drop! Watching the men participating in the limbo contest is enough to bring tears to your eyes! This year we were blessed to have our returning DJ, Sally Rodgers, keeping the beat to music and keeping everyone on their toes. A special thanks also goes out to our very own Cas Longo, for donating her photography skills to capture this evening in pictures! Love is patient, love is kind. It does not boast. But when it comes to the students and families of Grace Garden, I don't mind boasting one bit. They are simply the best.



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## NEWS & NOTES

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### Thank You ENOUGH

For over four months Hilary Marchbanks and her team have been working to create and lead our stewardship initiative Enough: Discovering Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity. To our planning team: Hilary, Mike Renquist, Jason Fullmer, Barbara Holmes, Allison Benz, Shirley Dickson, Phil Darby, Lisa Alverson, and Chris Sparks—we can't thank you ENOUGH! Here's some of what they accomplished by the numbers: 48 shifts of constant prayer organized by Allison Benz; 1 Narrative budget written and mailed; 7 Different congregational letters written and mailed; 6 Congregational emails written and sent; 8 Newsletter articles written; 8 Newsletter articles laid-out by Holly Sudduth; 400 Contentment Keytags passed out by Mike Renquist, Lisa Alverson, Jason Fullmer and Allison Benz; 4 Weeks of Sunday School lessons authored by Mike Renquist and taught by various Sunday School teachers, Mike Renquist, and Lisa Alverson; two 8-hour Good \$ense courses taught by Paul and Stacey Youngdale; 1 Texas Methodist Foundation course taught; 4 weeks of a Financial Resources Table organized by Barbara Holmes (volunteers: Jason Fullmer, Chris Sparks, Mike Renquist); 1 artistic representation of a pantry to fill created by Jessica Schumacher; 4 sermons given by David Gilliam, Georjean Blanton and Hilary Marchbanks; 4 Offering Prayers written; 750 Commitment Cards created (designed by Mike Renquist, copy written by Julie Sieverman); 3 Stewardship Committee Meetings organized by Mike Renquist. THANK YOU!

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### Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening is the leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings in the US. Currently, in neighborhoods like ours, Life Line Screening is screening approximately 1 million people each year, adding to the 6 million previously screened since their beginning in 1993. Cardiovascular disease is the #1 killer in the United States of both men and women—and a leading cause of permanent disability. You may think that your physician would order these screenings if they were necessary. However, insurance companies typically will not pay for screenings unless a person has suffered symptoms. Unfortunately, for so many people, the first sign of a stroke is a stroke. That is why having a Life Line screening is so important to keep you and your loved ones healthy and independent. We encourage you to talk to your physician about Life Line Screening. Life Line screening will be held at Saint John's on Monday, April 19. Pre-registration is required. Call 1-800-690-6313.

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### Newsletter Schedule in March

Due to spring break schedules, we will not be publishing a newsletter on March 21. Submissions for the March 14 issue are due Thursday, March 4. This issue will cover events and news through March 27. Please plan ahead and submit articles to [holly@stjohnsaustin.org](mailto:holly@stjohnsaustin.org) or leave your article in the church staff mailbox.

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### Lost and Found

Please see if any of these items belong to you. Anything left in the lost and found box at the end of February will be donated to charity. Lost and found is located under the desk just outside the church office.

- Starbucks tall insulated mug with leaves and berries pattern
- Nokia car adapter/charger
- Round tin blue Christmas tray
- Child's blue quilted zip-up vest
- Child's size 5 white sweater with 2 dark red roses on front
- Child's swimsuit, aqua blue with colored dots and pink sash
- Small stuffed Daisy duck
- 3 pet bowls: small yellow w/cat; small multicolored w/dog; large grey dog bowl
- Several umbrellas
- A black heavy wool ladies coat is hanging in the church office.

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## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

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Saint John's staff and prayer group members pray for these people each week. We encourage you to include them in your prayers as well. To have your prayers of joys and concerns added to the list, please submit them in writing to the office, or to [info@stjohnsaustin.org](mailto:info@stjohnsaustin.org). Include your name and phone number.

**Hospital:** Becky Stathos, Mildred Keithly

**Deaths:** Tilly McCall (Nancy Rook's aunt) passed away February 9. The funeral service was Saturday, February 13. Bill Hall (Jil Lanman's cousin) passed away February 8.

<b>Prayers and Concerns:</b>	Bob Favret	Tommye Jones	Chris Purkiss' niece
Saint John's Family	Naomi Fitzmorris	Dale Kirtland	Scott Rust
Christine Baker & family	Theresa Kotara Fohn	Frank Kizlinski	Chris Sparks
Norma Barber	Gail Fuller & Carrie James	Bill Lust	Janice Speaks
Keith Beasley	Linda Greenhaw	Dora & Charles McDonald	Rev. Henry Swafford
Bill Brewer	Jeff Haynes	Ryan Melton	Sally Tanberg
David Cappolino	Bill Henry	Marge Michalchick	Rita Tanberg
Rick and Spencer Chaney	John and Lainie Hettrick	Scott Millard	Jerry Todd
Allyson Clynych	Elmer Hixson	Virginia Montgomery	Flo Wojcik
Sonny Cochran	The Tim Horner family	Alan Morris	Amy Wright
Liam Collier	Brent House's family	Richard Murph	Dorothea & Vernon Wright
Don Curry	Reva and Jack Jackson	Dorothy Parker	Cy Zaleski
Jill Deckman	Christy Johnson	The Piland family	Ben Zieger
Chris Deloach & Angie M.	Ollie Jones	Barby Pool	
Gary Dittmar	Terry Jones	Wade and Rayda Porter	

**Military Service:** Captain Luke E. Barber (Dora Barber's grandson), Shea Browning (Faye Byers' great grandson), Marine Riley Callahan (Jane Wilson's grandson), Tim Campbell (Kathie Tovo's nephew), Eric Clakley (husband of Rachel Richey Clakley), Wesley Ebbers (Susan Harrelson's nephew), PV2 Amanda Fain (Renee Speed's niece), Wesley Iley (Cecil Allert's grandson), Stephen Jarman (Gene Jarman's son), Brandon Kloppe (Elissa Kloppe's husband), Cpl. Justin Kloppe (Elissa Kloppe's brother-in-law), Tech Sgt. Chad Knox (Lynn Lindsay's nephew), SSG (P) John M. Lewis (Nona Gold's great nephew), Michael Scott Meischen, US Navy (Sue Meischen's grandson), Alexandria Ogg (Elissa Kloppe's cousin), Sean Pavelka (Kim Graley's cousin), SSGT Hans Pugh (Tim Pugh's son), Rudy Rosales (Melissa Rosales' husband), Cpl. Peyton Sackett (Randi Wardian's friend), Col. Kenneth Tovo (Kathie's brother), Thomas Walker (Johanna's husband), Chester Wall (Karen Young's nephew), Holden Wilkie (Sally Tanberg's son), Tyler Wilkins (Georjean Blanton's great nephew), Scott Zaleski (Judy & Cy Zaleski's son). Jason Zirkle (Leif Dove's cousin), Megan Montgomery's husband, Mark.

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

Prayer requests are listed for one month and then automatically roll off, unless you advise us otherwise. If you know of a listed concern that no longer needs our prayers, please let us know.

Please take a moment to write a note, on a Prayer Post Card, to individuals for whom you are praying. Prayer Post Cards are available in the pews. If you do not know the address, cards may be placed in the offering plate or left in the church office for mailing.

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# SAINT JOHN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS NOTES

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## **Companions Class, Annex A**

For progressive 40-something couples, singles and partners. Part of the Reconciling Ministries Network. Contact: Cathy Kyle, 450-0919.

## **Discussion Class, Rm. 119**

People in this class consider relevant books and papers within the context of the Bible and our Faith. The class discusses the intersection of current social issues and Christian Faith. Contact: Bill Harris, 454.1052 or billandlibharris@sbcglobal.net

## **Fellowship Class, Rm. 210**

Happy Valentine's Day! Ralph tied today's lesson about Jesus' sacrifices for the love of man with how Valentine's Day is a time to show love for one another. Members shared special memories of Valentine's Day. Our numbers were down because of the Marathon Race that impeded the routes to church, but those of us that were there enjoyed the fellowship. We welcomed one visitor, Mary King, and welcomed back Martha McGlothlin, our pianist, from her trip. We hope everyone can make it to class next week.

## **Happy Heretics, 5900 Wynona, Front**

On February 7, the Happy Heretics began a 7-part study of the Book of Ruth with a new series from Living the Questions called "Uppity Women of the Bible". Each session features a 10-15 minute video segment from Dr. Lisa Wolfe, Professor of Hebrew Bible at Oklahoma City University followed by lively and engaging discussion (from you). This is a really fun class. I hope you can come.

## **New Young Adults Class, Rm. 207**

This gathering of young adults (20s and 30s) that meet upstairs in room 207. We meet weekly, supporting each other and discussing topics of interest. Visitors highly encouraged!

## **Open Circle, Annex C**

January 10, we began the churchwide study, The ENOUGH Initiative: Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity. This Scripture based study on generosity and simplicity is quite relevant to our current economic crisis. It promises some fresh understandings of our faith in today's world. Themes of loss, materialism and change will also be covered. All are welcome to attend this study or visit. Feel free to contact Beth Siever if you have any questions at: bsiever@austin.rr.com.

## **Seekers Class, 5900 Wynona, Back**

Singles and couples in their 30s to 50s seeking to become better disciples of Christ through primarily scripture-based studies. Class time is informal yet enriching through education, prayer and support for each other. The class also enjoys family-oriented service and social events.

## **Serenity Class, Rm. 206**

Our class serves as a bridge between the church and those of us who struggle with our own compulsive nature, whether it involves work, food, alcohol, drugs, focusing on other people, etc. Whatever is shared within the class remains confidential. We use scripture and the 12-steps of AA as guides for our discussion but the class is not a 12-step meeting.

## **Wesley Class, Rm. 208**

Roy Harris gave our lesson today from Matt. 16.13-27 on faith in the secular world and as described in scripture. Faith is a concept of future events, a belief not resting on logical proof and persuasion of the mind. Faith is based on our personal beliefs unique to each person. Faith is usually directed toward God; however, we use faith in other ways, like getting on a plane, stopping at a red light, using banks for our money, and recovering from disease. Jesus asked his disciples, "Who do they say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Son of the Living God." Our class will have a chili supper in March on a date not yet determined. Keep the Sayers in your prayers and Liam, the Collier's grandson, who is doing well. Buddy Oliver is moved from assisted living to the nursing care area of his retirement home.

*For a full description of Sunday School Classes at Saint John's, please see the brochure at the table by the front doors.*

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